

DURANGO CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

November 13, 2014

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Scott Tipton
United States House of Representatives
218 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Bennet and Representative Tipton,

The Durango Chamber of Commerce thanks you for your leadership and willingness to work as a bipartisan coalition on the Hermosa Creek Watershed Protection Act. As you know, over 200 local businesses have endorsed the act, including multiple outfitters and retailers that have been advocating for Hermosa Creek's protection since the early days of our community's negotiations on the issue. The Chamber appreciate your work on behalf of our members to protect an area that is crucial to our local recreation and tourism economy, as well as our way of life here in Durango.

Our members want to protect Hermosa Creek both for its wilderness and economic value. Thus, the Durango Chamber of Commerce is glad to hear that you have reached a compromise on the bill's language, and we sincerely hope that the bipartisan, community-consensus version of the bill passes through the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee today. Moreover, we encourage you to continue working together and with the community to ensure that that the bill passes in both chambers and makes it onto the President's desk by the end of this year.

Thank you again for your diligent work on behalf of our business community and Hermosa Creek. You have our support in moving the compromise version of the bill forward. We look forward to collaborating with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jack Llewellyn
Executive Director
Durango Chamber of Commerce



111 S. Camino del Rio | P.O. Box 2587 | Durango, CO 81302
ph: 970.247.0312 | fax: 970.385.7884 | www.durangobusiness.org